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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/625,876  | 07/24/2003  | Thomas Richard Beard | 83336.1780          | 9673             |
| 66880   | 7590        | 10/15/2009           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| STEPTOE & JOHNSON, LLP<br>2121 AVENUE OF THE STARS<br>SUITE 2800<br>LOS ANGELES, CA 90067 |             |                      |                     | ART UNIT         |
|   |             |                      |                     | PAPER NUMBER     |

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2009

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|   |                                    |                      |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Notice of Non-Compliant<br/>Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)</b> | Application No.                    | Applicant(s)         |
|   | 10/625,876                         | BEARD ET AL.         |
|   | Examiner<br><br>KENNETH L. BARTLEY | Art Unit<br><br>3693 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

The amendment document filed on 27 July 2009 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required.

THE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- 1. Amendments to the specification:
  - A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - C. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Abstract:
  - A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - B. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Amendments to the drawings:
  - A. The drawings are not properly identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR 1.121(d).
  - B. The practice of submitting proposed drawing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings showing amended figures, without markings, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required.
  - C. Other \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Amendments to the claims:
  - A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended).
  - D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - E. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4):
   
See Continuation Sheet

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714.

#### TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

1. Applicant is given **no new time period** if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the **entire corrected amendment** must be resubmitted.
2. Applicant is given **one month**, or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the **corrected section** of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121.

**Extensions of time** are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) **only** if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action.

**Failure to timely respond** to this notice will result in:

- Abandonment** of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action; or
- Non-entry** of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment.

|  |  |
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| /JAGDISH N PATEL/<br>Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3693 |  |
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Continuation of 5 Other: The Examiner in the Final Office Action dated March 27, 2009 requested Applicant to perfect their priority. Specifically, it is unclear to the Examiner how application NZ 509524 and WO/2002/059815 relate to the instant application. Applicant indicated on April 4, 2008 that the instant application was entitled to priority. For example, Is the instant application a continuation or continuation-in-part, this affects the priority date of prior art? Establishing priority is important because it provides an earlier date and prevents the earlier disclosure being used as prior art. As it stands, it is unclear to the Examiner what Applicant's intentions are. The Applicant does not have to perfect their priority with the Office in one month, but needs to start the process and inform the Examiner what type of priority they are attempting (e.g. Continuation or CIP).